

Pagan Spirituality

When the Voice of the Divine is Female

What is Paganism???

*From the Latin ‘paganus’
“People of the Earth”*

Paganism is principally rooted in the old religions of Europe, though some adherents also find great worth in the indigenous beliefs of other countries.

Such belief in the sacredness of all things can be found world-wide. Pagans see this as their heritage, and retain the beliefs and values of their ancestors in forms adapted to suit modern life.

Let's put this in a little context - it began as something ascribed by the Roman military to indicate civilians, or non-military. From there it was adopted by the general population of Rome and devolved to reflect the non-cosmopolitan - those who followed the old ways, and then, more contemptuously, hillbillies - the unwashed, the uneducated... So - who WERE those people???



Pythagoreans Celebrating the Sunrise
6 BCE

Goddess
Ancient Mothers

Venus of Willendorf



28000 BCE

Vestonicka Venus



29000 BCE

Sheela-na-gig



1100 CE

Sleeping Woman of Malta



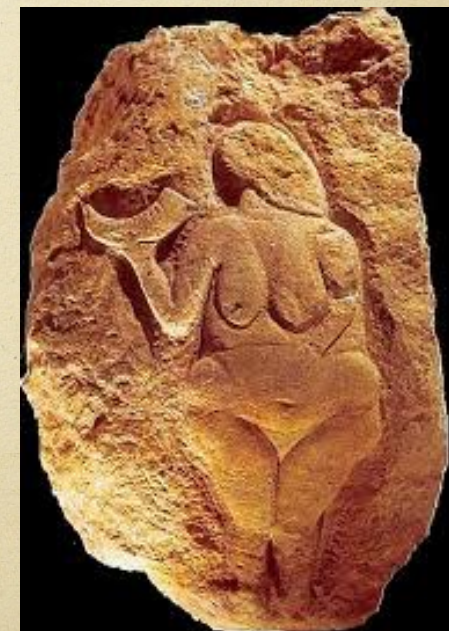
3300 BCE

Venus of Lespugue



20000 BCE

Venus of Laussel



25000 BCE



G
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“Women’s power to create life, apparently out of their own substance, and to respond with fearful and mystical blood cycles to the phases of the moon, made them creatures of magic in the eyes of primitive men, who knew themselves unable to match such powers. Thus women took on the roles of intermediaries between humanity and spiritual powers. They became seers, priestesses, healers, oracles, lawmakers, judges, and agents of the Great Mother Goddess who gave birth to the universe.”

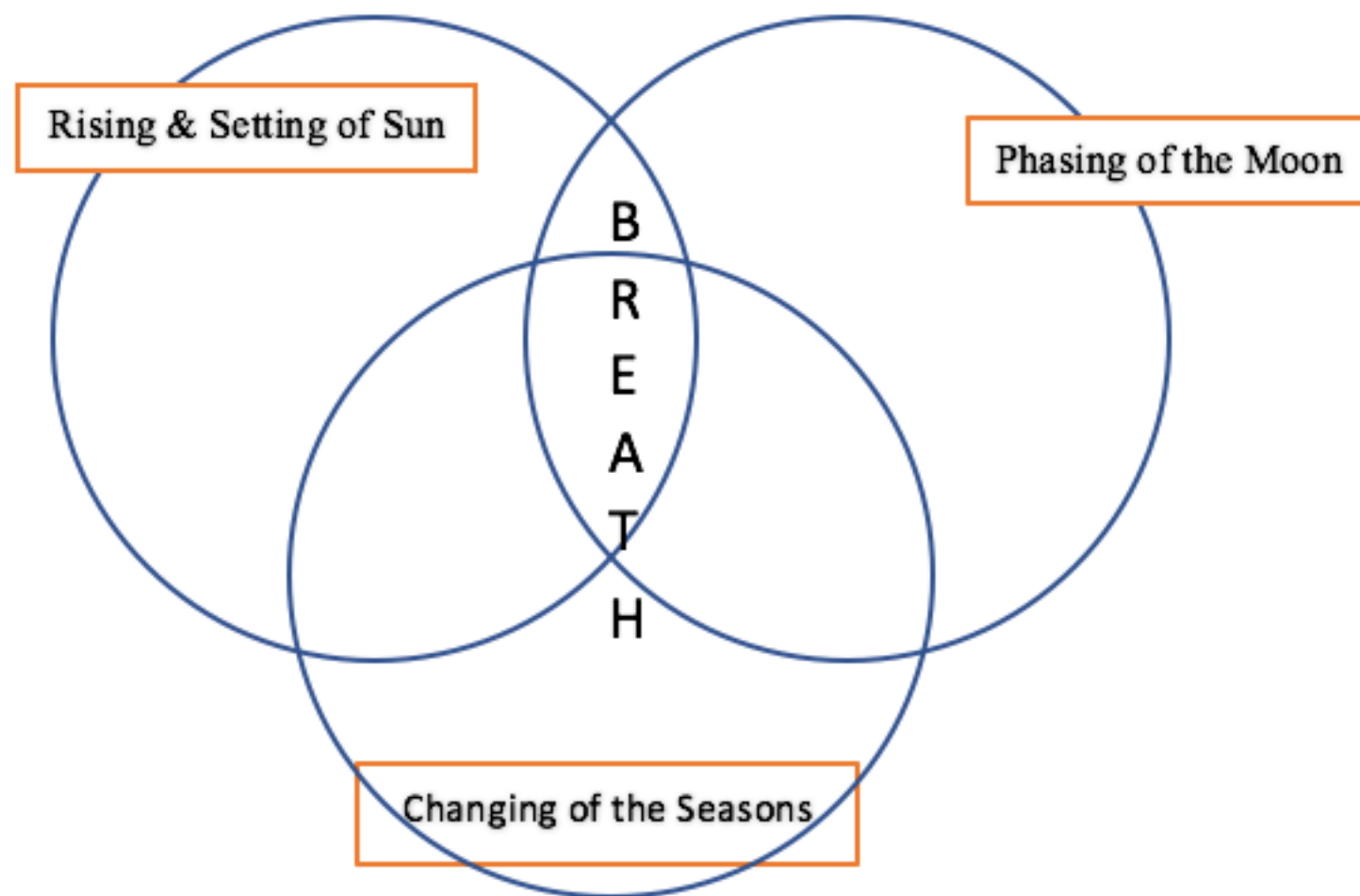
—Barbara Walker



The Divine Feminine

Priestesses, Prophetesses, Seers, Sorceresses

The Cycles of Nature



Moon Rituals



Waxing, Full, Waning, Dark
Maiden, Mother, Queen & Crone
Squire, Sire, King & Sage

Wheel of the Year



Winter Solstice Blessing

NOW IS THE TIME TO HONOR THE REBIRTH OF
THE SUN, TO REMEMBER THE LIGHT IN THE
DARKEST PART OF THE SEASON WITH
HOPE OF GOOD THINGS TO COME,
AND THE PROMISE OF A RENEWED
LIFE.

Winter Solstice

Birth of the Sun - December 21

Imbolc

*The Seed Stirs in the
Belly - February 1*



Spring Equinox

March 21

Whatsup With the
Rabbits & Eggs?





Beltane

All About Love - May 1st



Summer Solstice

Longest Day - Father's Day - Male Power at its Height - June 21



Lughnasadh

First Harvest - August 1



Autumn Equinox

Second Harvest, Letting Go, Turning Inward - September 22



Summers End
Third Harvest
Blood Harvest
Ancestors



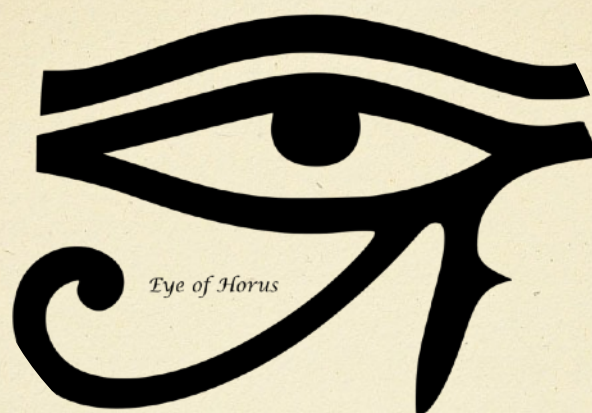
October 31

Ritual

“A painting is not just canvas and paint;
it goes beyond the physical components.
It’s the same with a ritual: if it actually
functions, it achieves a wider end than
simply performing each of the steps in
succession..”

—Michael York, Pagan Ethics

Symbols



Eye of Horus



*Algiz
Rune of
Protection*



Magic/Spellcasting/Prayer



Witch!!!



Divination

Tarot

Mediums

Palmistry

Psychics

Scrying

Ouija Boards

Fortune Tellers

Shamanism

Tea leaves...

Satan

An Abrahamic construct/deity that is unknown in Paganism. Possibly configured from ancient images of the Greek god Pan, or a variety of the green man or Lord of the forest archetypes, who were often portrayed as horned gods; half human, half goat. They were based upon the agricultural cycle that symbolized the concept of an annual god and a perennial goddess.



Animals/Food

"We need another and a wiser and perhaps a more mystical concept of animals. Remote from universal nature and living by complicated artifice, man in civilization surveys the creature through the glass of his knowledge and sees thereby a feather magnified and the whole image in distortion. We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate for having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein we err, we greatly err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they move finished and complete, gifted with extensions of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren; they are not underlings; they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the Earth."

— Henry Beston
The Outermost House
1928

“...all animals speak to those who listen.

When we learn to speak with the animals.....the animals are no longer our subordinates. They become our teachers, our friends, and our companions.”

From Animal Speak by Ted Andrews

Ethics/Personal Responsibility

- §•Health
- §•Honor/Worship
- §•Pleasure
- §•Productivity
- §•Generosity
- §•Self-responsibility
- §•Sustainability
- §•Don't be a jerk

Death



Ancestors

Veneration of The Mighty Dead, The Beloved Dead

The After Life

❧

Summerland

❧

Return to the Mother

❧

Soul Contracts

❧

Reincarnation

❧

This is it

Fact is no one knows...
That's why they call it a
MYSTERY!



Thank you, to all who came to learn today!

With a special thanks to:

- ✱ Rev. Dr. Gwynne Guibord
- ✱ Dr. Michael York
- ✱ Rev. Andras Corban-Arthen
- ✱ Rev. Shel Skau and
- ✱ Rev. Dr. Drake Spaeth

Reading List

Bibliography/Resources

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(Also - Voices of the Sacred Feminine: Conversations to Re-Shape Our World, and
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When the root is deep there is no reason to fear the wind.

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